

Message Text

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ORIGIN NASA-02

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APPROVED BY OES/APT/SA:RBEDDINGTON
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR LANDSAT COVERAGE OF COSTA RICA

REF: SAN JOSE 2172

1. NASA WELCOMES COSTA RICAN INTEREST IN LANDSAT PROGRAM AND APPRECIATES CONCERN OVER LACK OF RECENT COVERAGE. UNFORTUNATELY, COSTA RICA IS OUT OF RANGE OF OPERATING LANDSAT GROUND STATIONS IN THE U.S. AND BRAZIL (WHICH COVERS THE AMAZON BASIN AND PORTIONS OF VENEZUELA). COVERAGE OF AREAS OUTSIDE THE RANGE OF SUCH GROUND STATIONS MUST BE OBTAINED THROUGH THE USE OF THE ONE REMAINING ON-BOARD TAPE RECORDER WHICH HAS A LIMITED LIFETIME AND IS NOT EXPECTED TO LAST MUCH LONGER. MOREOVER, USE OF THIS ONE REMAINING TAPE RECORDER IS LARGEY DEVOTED TO PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED, HIGH PRIORITY U.S. PROGRAMS.

2. NONETHELESS, NASA IS HAPPY TO CONSIDER OBTAINING A LIMITED AMOUNT OF LANDSAT-2 DATA OF COSTA RICA. NASA UNDERSTANDS THAT THE COSTA RICAN REMOTE SENSING PROGRAM UNCLASSIFIED

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MENTIONED REFTEL IS ACTUALLY PART OF A BROADER AID EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE THE UTILIZATION OF LANDSAT DATA IN THE CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL AMERICA. IN ORDER TO BETTER

UNDERSTAND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THESE TWO ACTIVITIES, AND TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE SPECIFIC COSTA RICAN COVERAGE REQUEST, NASA WOULD APPRECIATE THE FOLLOWING:

A) A SHORT SUMMARY OF THE PLANNED COSTA RICAN REMOTE SENSING PROGRAM INCLUDING DETAILS ON HOW THE DATA WILL BE UTILIZED AND ON WHAT LOCAL AND FOREIGN GROUPS WILL BE PARTICIPATING.

B) THE DESIRED PERIOD(S) OF COVERAGE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT LOCAL CLOUD COVER CONDITIONS AND NASA'S ABOVE-MENTIONED DATA GATHERING CONSTRAINTS.

3. ABOVE INFORMATION SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO:

MR. JAMES ZIMMERMAN, NASA HEADQUARTERS,
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, WASHINGTON, DC 20546 VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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